

When contacted by *NewsLaundry*, Samdish Bhatia's lawyer Ritesh Dubey said, "Firstly, it is below my standards to dignify this "entrapment" with a substantiation. However, for sake of argument if it is taken at the face value, I would respond."

"I, as a lawyer, was only acting as per instructions and within the parameters of law as defined for the advocates and as lawyers, we are forbidden from disclosing or revealing any discussions/talks that happen around our cases including any mediation/resolution discussions.

"I do agree that Rishi Pratim Mukherjee assisted by and in presence of advocate Anchit Sharma initiated and attempted to resolve the complaint amicably within the purview of the PoSHA and revelation of these recordings which were part of such discussions is breach of the confidentiality and good faith principles. It is further astonishing that the same company has filed a suit seeking injunction from Mr Bhatia from disclosing the details of the complaint discussions around it and the purported 'investigation' by the SW."

Dubey said, "It is further shocking that the company is using their standard tactic of maligning the complainant and levelling scandalous and salacious allegations at the complainant's lawyer is a new low in the history of 'management' of SW sexual harassment. Mr Mishra and Mr Mukherjee along with other co-founders are already facing sexual harassment charges from an ex-employee in 2017-18 and SW and its co-founders have a standard operating procedure of discrediting the complainant by levelling scandalous and scurrilous allegations like this as we have seen in the past."

"The law PoSHA is very clear that any money cannot be made a basis for settlement therefore, I and Mr Bhatia categorically and unequivocally state we never asked any money against our complaint," he said.

"SW is led by a team of inept, deceitful, and incompetent people whose only claim to fame is that they have been able to sell a loss laden venture to Good Glamm Group. It is for Sattvik Mishra and Rishi Pratim Mukherjee to answer as to why they have not disclosed the pending sexual harassment complaint and the litigation they have started to the Good Glamm Group as part of due diligence. The present revelation of recording is only a face-saving measure before their financial saviors and juvenile attempt by 'johny when caught with his hands in the cookie jar'," the lawyer said.

"The claims of Sattvik Mishra are completely scandalous, have no basis in law of fact, and are defamatory about which Mr Bhatia shall take appropriate legal action."